

Appln. No. 09/229,283
Responsive to Office Action dated January 16, 2007
Amendment dated May 7, 2007

Remarks

To expedite prosecution of preferred embodiments, the Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 13, 18-20 and 22-23, without prejudice. The Applicant reserves the right to continue prosecution of the subject matter of the cancelled claims in any continuation, continuation-in-part or divisional applications claiming priority to the present application.

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's finding that claims 14 and 21 are allowable. The Applicant has rewritten claim 21 in independent claim incorporating the subject matter of all the claims it depends from. The Applicant has further amended claims 4 and 16 to depend from claims 14 and 21 that the Examiner has found allowable. Accordingly, the amendments are supported by the claims as previously pending and no new matter has been introduced by the virtue of these amendments. The Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments be entered.

Turning now to the specific rejections.

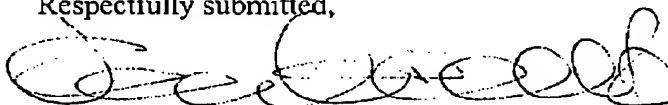
Claims 1, 4, 13, 18-20, and 22-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

While Applicant respectfully disagrees to expedite prosecution, the Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 13, 18-20 without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejections have been rendered moot.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

In the event that any additional fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby is authorized to charge Nixon Peabody LLP deposit account No. 50-0850.

Respectfully submitted,



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